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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
GROUP 3724  
**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q64671

Shigeru TANAKA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/909,988

Group Art Unit: 3724

Confirmation No.: 1372

Examiner: Jason D. PRONE

Filed: July 23, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ESTIMATING A LIFE-SPAN OF A CUTTER

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

**MAIL STOP AF**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 25, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows on the accompanying pages.

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